(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) No formal assurance has been given by the Prime Minister to INS in solving major newspapers industries issues.

(b) Does not arise.

Pension scheme for NRIs

1708. SHRI THENNALA G. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal for any type of pension scheme for NRIs; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Proposal for E-Governance initiatives in rural areas

1709. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal with Government to promote e-governance initiatives in rural parts of the country;

(b) if so, how far would it be helpful to farmers to sell their produce at best possible rates; and

(c) the time-frame for the completion of the project with financial allocation, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Panchayati Raj is preparing a mission mode project for e-Governance at the Gram Panchayat level under the National e-Governance plan. It is envisaged that this will enable all Panchayats in the country to progressively obtain the benefits of Information Technology in implementing e-Governance solutions with reference to identified services delivered at the Panchayat level.